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**ECONOMICS  
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**ADVANCE REPORT ON DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS AND ORDERS**  
January 1999

(All figures in text below are in seasonally adjusted current dollars)

• **NEW ORDERS** New orders for manufactured durable goods in January increased \$7.7 billion or 3.9 percent to \$203.4 billion, the Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census reported today. This follows a 3.4 percent December increase and is the seventh increase in the last eight months. This is the largest increase since the 4.4 percent increase in November 1997. Excluding transportation, new orders increased 0.4 percent, the third consecutive monthly increase. New orders for January 1999 are 8.8 percent above January 1998.

Transportation equipment, up for the third consecutive month, increased \$7.1 billion or 15.4 percent to \$53.2 billion; increases in aircraft and parts and motor vehicle and parts more than offset decreases in railroad equipment and shipbuilding and tanks. This follows a 2.5 percent December increase. Electronic and other electrical equipment, up four of the last five months, increased \$1.9 billion or 5.7 percent to \$35.9 billion. This follows a 6.4 percent December increase. Instruments and related products, up three consecutive months, also increased. Industrial machinery and equipment, down for the first month since October, decreased \$1.2 billion or 3.1 percent to \$37.1 billion. This follows a 7.6 percent December increase. Primary metals, down four of the last five months, decreased \$0.5 billion or 3.3 percent to \$13.6 billion, following a 3.4 percent December decrease.

• **SHIPMENTS** Shipments of durable goods in January decreased \$0.1 billion to \$195.7 billion. This follows a 0.5 percent December increase and is the first decrease since May. Shipments for January 1999 are 7.4 percent above January 1998.

Industrial machinery and equipment, down two of the last three months, had the largest decrease, \$0.4 billion or 1.0 percent to \$36.5 billion. This follows a 0.8 percent December increase. Transportation equipment, down for the second consecutive month, decreased \$0.2 billion or 0.4 percent to \$47.7 billion. This follows a 0.9 percent December decrease. Electronic and other electrical equipment, up seven of the last eight months, increased \$0.5 billion or 1.6 percent to \$33.7 billion, following a 1.7 percent December increase. Primary metals, up for the first month since August, increased 0.2 percent to \$14.2 billion, following a 0.4 percent December decrease.

• **UNFILLED ORDERS** Unfilled orders for durable goods in January increased \$7.7 billion or 1.6 percent to \$502.8 billion, the largest increase since the 2.2 percent increase in November 1997. This follows a slight December decrease and is the first increase since August. Transportation equipment, up for the first month since August, had the largest increase, \$5.5 billion or 2.3 percent to \$248.7 billion. This follows a 0.7 percent December decrease. Electronic and other electrical equipment, up four of the last five months, increased \$2.2 billion or 3.6 percent to \$62.7 billion. This follows a 1.3 percent December increase. Industrial machinery and equipment, up for the second consecutive month, increased \$0.6 billion or 0.8 percent to \$75.0 billion, following a 1.9 percent December increase. Primary metals, down ten of the last eleven months, decreased \$0.6 billion or 2.1 percent to \$28.9 billion. This follows a 0.4 percent December decrease.

• **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, DEFENSE** New orders in January, up for the second consecutive month, increased \$0.8 billion or 11.1 percent to \$8.3 billion, following a 31.4 percent December increase. Shipments, up for the first month since October, increased \$0.4 billion or 6.4 percent to \$7.0 billion, following a 5.3 percent December decrease. Unfilled orders, up for the second consecutive month, increased \$1.3 billion or 1.3 percent to \$97.1 billion, following a 0.9 percent December increase.

• **CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES, NONDEFENSE** New orders in January, up for the third consecutive month, increased \$5.8 billion or 11.2 percent to \$57.8 billion, following a 2.7 percent December increase. Shipments, down for the second consecutive month, decreased \$0.4 billion or 0.8 percent to \$53.7 billion. This follows a 0.2 percent December decrease. Unfilled orders, up for the first month since September, increased \$4.2 billion or 1.6 percent to \$261.6 billion, following a 0.8 percent December decrease. Excluding aircraft and parts, new orders decreased \$1.2 billion or 2.6 percent to \$45.9 billion, the first decrease since October; shipments decreased \$0.6 billion or 1.3 percent to \$44.8 billion, the third decrease in the last four months; unfilled orders increased \$1.1 billion or 1.0 percent to \$108.0 billion, the second consecutive monthly increase.

• **REVISED DECEMBER DATA** Revised seasonally adjusted December figures for all manufacturing industries are: shipments, \$344.3 billion (revised from \$344.5 billion); new orders, \$343.8 billion (revised from \$343.5 billion); unfilled orders, \$518.9 billion (revised from \$518.3 billion); and total inventories, \$466.9 billion (unrevised).

Our internet site address is: <http://www.census.gov/indicator/www/m3>

Table 1. DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS AND ORDERS  
(Millions of dollars)

| Item   | Seasonally adjusted       |                           |              |                            |                            |               | Not seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup> |                           |              |                             |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|  | Monthly                   |                           |              | Percent Change             |                            |               | Monthly                              |                           |              | Percent change<br>Jan.99/98 |
|  | Jan.<br>1999 <sup>2</sup> | Dec.<br>1998 <sup>2</sup> | Nov.<br>1998 | Dec.-<br>Jan. <sup>2</sup> | Nov.-<br>Dec. <sup>2</sup> | Oct.-<br>Nov. | Jan.<br>1999 <sup>2</sup>            | Dec.<br>1998 <sup>2</sup> | Jan.<br>1998 |                             |
| <b>DURABLE GOODS</b>                               |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| <b>Total :</b>                                     |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 195,709                   | 195,793                   | 194,823      | 0.0                        | +0.5                       | +0.5          | 171,620                              | 198,393                   | 159,937      | +7.3                        |
| New orders   | 203,425                   | 195,712                   | 189,193      | +3.9                       | +3.4                       | +0.4          | 188,773                              | 197,015                   | 172,138      | +9.7                        |
| Unfilled orders                                    | 502,764                   | 495,048                   | 495,129      | +1.6                       | 0.0                        | -1.1          | 507,173                              | 490,020                   | 518,535      | -2.2                        |
| <b>Excluding defense :</b>                         |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 188,701                   | 189,206                   | 187,869      | -0.3                       | +0.7                       | +0.6          | 165,805                              | 190,807                   | 154,692      | +7.2                        |
| New orders   | 195,163                   | 188,276                   | 183,536      | +3.7                       | +2.6                       | +0.7          | 180,236                              | 186,677                   | 164,910      | +9.3                        |
| Unfilled orders                                    | 405,621                   | 399,159                   | 400,089      | +1.6                       | -0.2                       | -1.1          | 408,738                              | 394,307                   | 414,336      | -1.4                        |
| <b>With unfilled orders :</b>                      |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 161,499                   | 161,715                   | 161,668      | -0.1                       | 0.0                        | +0.7          | 140,337                              | 168,029                   | 131,731      | +6.5                        |
| New orders   | 169,215                   | 161,634                   | 156,038      | +4.7                       | +3.6                       | +0.5          | 157,490                              | 166,651                   | 143,932      | +9.4                        |
| <b>Primary metals :</b>                            |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 14,248                    | 14,224                    | 14,286       | +0.2                       | -0.4                       | -2.1          | 13,535                               | 13,001                    | 15,000       | -9.8                        |
| New orders   | 13,623                    | 14,091                    | 14,587       | -3.3                       | -3.4                       | +9.3          | 13,979                               | 13,770                    | 15,993       | -12.6                       |
| Unfilled orders                                    | 28,931                    | 29,556                    | 29,689       | -2.1                       | -0.4                       | +1.0          | 29,289                               | 28,845                    | 35,331       | -17.1                       |
| <b>Industrial machinery and equipment:</b>         |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 36,545                    | 36,922                    | 36,623       | -1.0                       | +0.8                       | -1.0          | 30,329                               | 40,139                    | 30,254       | +0.2                        |
| New orders   | 37,112                    | 38,286                    | 35,593       | -3.1                       | +7.6                       | +0.3          | 31,750                               | 40,982                    | 31,101       | +2.1                        |
| Unfilled orders                                    | 75,023                    | 74,456                    | 73,092       | +0.8                       | +1.9                       | -1.4          | 75,886                               | 74,465                    | 74,272       | +2.2                        |
| <b>Electronic and other electrical equipment :</b> |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 33,711                    | 33,175                    | 32,634       | +1.6                       | +1.7                       | +1.3          | 28,531                               | 37,106                    | 24,951       | +14.3                       |
| New orders   | 35,897                    | 33,964                    | 31,933       | +5.7                       | +6.4                       | -4.2          | 35,407                               | 35,033                    | 29,788       | +18.9                       |
| Unfilled orders                                    | 62,652                    | 60,466                    | 59,677       | +3.6                       | +1.3                       | -1.2          | 64,625                               | 57,749                    | 58,143       | +11.1                       |
| <b>Transportation equipment :</b>                  |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 47,706                    | 47,892                    | 48,324       | -0.4                       | -0.9                       | +0.6          | 42,803                               | 46,661                    | 36,878       | +16.1                       |
| New orders   | 53,244                    | 46,152                    | 45,024       | +15.4                      | +2.5                       | +0.3          | 50,373                               | 46,057                    | 41,302       | +22.0                       |
| Unfilled orders                                    | 248,745                   | 243,207                   | 244,947      | +2.3                       | -0.7                       | -1.3          | 250,154                              | 242,584                   | 258,941      | -3.4                        |
| <b>CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES<sup>3</sup></b>        |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| <b>Total :</b>                                     |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 60,662                    | 60,682                    | 61,154       | 0.0                        | -0.8                       | +0.4          | 49,152                               | 70,997                    | 45,366       | +8.3                        |
| New orders   | 66,099                    | 59,467                    | 56,332       | +11.2                      | +5.6                       | -0.3          | 57,130                               | 71,070                    | 51,508       | +10.9                       |
| Unfilled orders                                    | 358,709                   | 353,272                   | 354,487      | +1.5                       | -0.3                       | -1.3          | 360,797                              | 352,819                   | 369,574      | -2.4                        |
| <b>Nondefense :</b>                                |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 53,654                    | 54,095                    | 54,200       | -0.8                       | -0.2                       | +0.6          | 43,337                               | 63,411                    | 40,121       | +8.0                        |
| New orders   | 57,837                    | 52,031                    | 50,675       | +11.2                      | +2.7                       | +1.1          | 48,593                               | 60,732                    | 44,280       | +9.7                        |
| Unfilled orders                                    | 261,566                   | 257,383                   | 259,447      | +1.6                       | -0.8                       | -1.3          | 262,362                              | 257,106                   | 265,375      | -1.1                        |
| <b>Excluding aircraft and parts :</b>              |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 44,812                    | 45,419                    | 44,716       | -1.3                       | +1.6                       | -0.6          | 36,170                               | 52,766                    | 34,304       | +5.4                        |
| New orders   | 45,930                    | 47,172                    | 43,775       | -2.6                       | +7.8                       | +1.7          | 38,361                               | 53,904                    | 36,585       | +4.9                        |
| Unfilled orders                                    | 107,996                   | 106,878                   | 105,125      | +1.0                       | +1.7                       | -0.9          | 108,792                              | 106,601                   | 105,453      | +3.2                        |
| <b>Defense :</b>                                   |                           |                           |              |                            |                            |               |                                      |                           |              |                             |
| Shipments  | 7,008                     | 6,587                     | 6,954        | +6.4                       | -5.3                       | -1.6          | 5,815                                | 7,586                     | 5,245        | +10.9                       |
| New orders   | 8,262                     | 7,436                     | 5,657        | +11.1                      | +31.4                      | -11.0         | 8,537                                | 10,338                    | 7,228        | +18.1                       |
| Unfilled orders                                    | 97,143                    | 95,889                    | 95,040       | +1.3                       | +0.9                       | -1.3          | 98,435                               | 95,713                    | 104,199      | -5.5                        |

(NA) Not available. <sup>1</sup> Revised.

<sup>2</sup> Shipments and new orders are the totals for the period and are adjusted for trading-day and calendar-month variations; unfilled orders are as of the end of the period and are not adjusted for trading-day or calendar-month variations.

<sup>3</sup> Based on advance sample. Estimates of manufacturers' shipments, inventories, and orders are subject to survey error and revision. One major component of survey error is nonsampling error, which includes errors of coverage, response and nonreporting. Since the survey panel is not a probability sample, estimates of sampling error cannot be calculated. Further details on survey design, methodology, and data limitations are contained in our most recent annual benchmark publication, Current Industrial Reports: M3-1(96), "Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders: 1987-1996."

<sup>4</sup> The Capital Goods Industries include Nondefense : ordnance and accessories, steam engines and turbines, internal combustion engines, construction mining and material handling equipment, metalworking machinery, special industry machinery, general industrial machinery, computer and office equipment, refrigeration, heating and service industry machinery, electrical transmission and distribution equipment, electrical industrial apparatus, communication equipment, complete aircraft, missiles, and space vehicles, aircraft missiles, and space vehicle engines and parts, ships and tank components, railroad equipment, and search and navigation equipment. Defense capital goods include : ordnance, communication equipment, aircraft, missiles, space vehicles, and parts, ships, tanks and tank components, search and navigation equipment.

Table 2. AVERAGE REVISIONS TO PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED MONTHLY PERCENT CHANGES  
(Based on seasonally adjusted data)

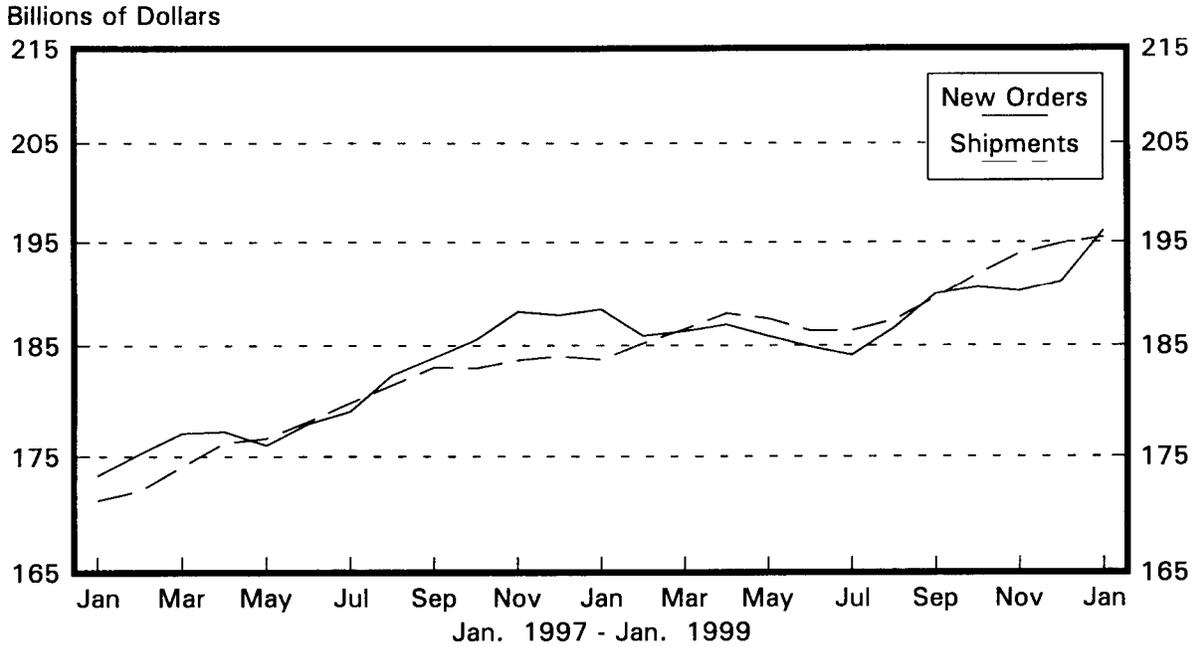
| Industry                                  | Shipments             |                   |                         | New Orders            |                   |                         | Unfilled Orders       |                   |                         |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
|   | Year ago<br>Jan. 1998 | Jan.<br>1994-1998 | Jan. 1998-<br>Dec. 1998 | Year ago<br>Jan. 1998 | Jan.<br>1994-1998 | Jan. 1998-<br>Dec. 1998 | Year ago<br>Jan. 1998 | Jan.<br>1994-1998 | Jan. 1998-<br>Dec. 1998 |
| Durable goods                             | 0.1                   | 0.4               | 0.4                     | 0.9                   | 0.8               | 0.9                     | 0.3                   | 0.2               | 0.2                     |
| Primary metals                            | 0.2                   | 0.4               | 0.5                     | 0.8                   | 0.7               | 0.9                     | 0.5                   | 0.3               | 0.3                     |
| Industrial machinery and equipment        | 0.9                   | 0.9               | 0.8                     | 0.8                   | 1.3               | 0.7                     | 0.0                   | 0.3               | 0.3                     |
| Electronic and other electrical equipment | 0.1                   | 0.9               | 0.9                     | 0.8                   | 1.5               | 2.5                     | 0.4                   | 0.6               | 0.8                     |
| Transportation equipment                  | 0.7                   | 0.5               | 1.4                     | 4.4                   | 1.4               | 1.8                     | 0.8                   | 0.3               | 0.2                     |
| Nondefense capital goods                  | 1.5                   | 1.5               | 0.9                     | 2.1                   | 1.4               | 1.1                     | 0.0                   | 0.1               | 0.2                     |
| Defense capital goods                     | 1.0                   | 1.3               | 0.9                     | 19.0                  | 9.4               | 8.5                     | 1.6                   | 0.6               | 0.5                     |

Note : The revisions are the differences between the month-to-month percent changes of the advance and final estimates. The monthly averages are the simple averages of the differences, without regard to sign, for the months specified.

# Total Durable Goods

## New Orders and Shipments

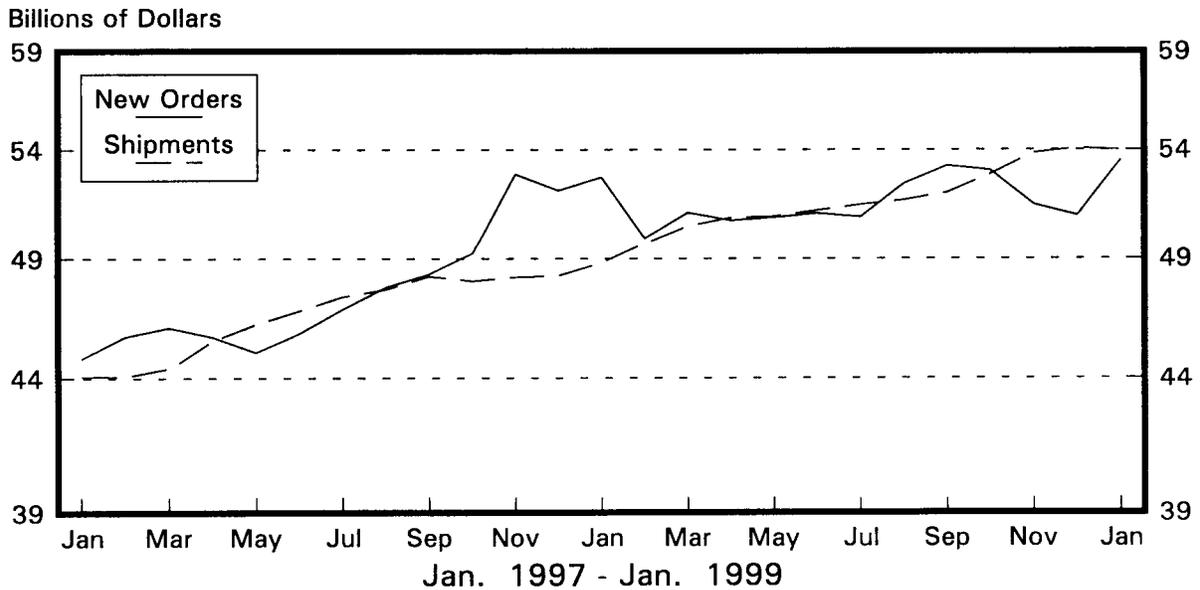
### Three Month Moving Averages



# Nondefense Capital Goods

## New Orders and Shipments

### Three Month Moving Averages



Note: All Charts based on seasonally adjusted current dollars.